



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
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Eleventh Annual *Youth in Court Day* Set For North County Court

A nationally acclaimed outreach program that attracts more than 1,000 North County students will get underway on Friday, March 16, 2012 at the Superior Court in Vista. *Youth in Court Day* is designed to make young people think about actions and consequences. During the day-long event, students will personally observe the court system and see the real tragedies and real-life scenarios that move through the court.

The North County Bar Association, the North County Lawyer Referral Service, along with Superior Court judges and staff will show students how the justice system works, expose them to and instill in them a respect for the law. The event includes morning mock trials for elementary and middle school students that were developed for the court outreach program known as *On My Honor*. The mock trials are based upon themes of assault and battery, drug possession, theft and bullying. Educational workshops for high school seniors will be conducted in the afternoon on diverse topics such as gangs, drugs, domestic violence, and the potential hazards of social networking.

Once again, the highlight of the event will take place at 1:00 p.m. in the jury lounge. In a one-hour presentation Jeanette, a young girl convicted of killing one person and injuring another while driving drunk, will discuss the night she took a person's life. She, along with the

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decendent's daughter, will address the students. (*Media – Please be aware, you are invited to photograph/videotape the presentation; however, you may not photograph the convicted girl's face and may only refer to her by her first name.*)

“*Youth in Court Day* would not be the incredible success it is without the constant and tremendous support of the attorneys of the North County Bar Association. About 50 attorneys volunteer their time serving as class advisors, guides, presenters and role models. The judges and staff of the Superior Court and the attorneys of the North County Bar are quite proud to provide this unique enrichment program for local students,” says Judge Richard G. Cline.

The mock trials will start at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The educational sessions begin at 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. *Youth in Court Day*, which received a National Community Outreach Award from the American Bar Association in 2005, has attracted more than 10,000 students since its inception. The *On My Honor* program has received local, county and state awards and has served an additional 6,000 students.

2012 YOUTH IN COURT DAY

WHAT: *Youth in Court Day*, a nationally awarded program, is held once a year at the North County Courthouse in Vista. The goal of *Youth in Court Day* is to expose North County grade, middle and high school students to various aspects of the state judicial system.

WHEN: **9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Friday, March 16, 2012**

WHERE: North County Courthouse
325 South Melrose Drive, Vista

WHO: San Diego Superior Court
Bar Association of Northern San Diego County
Lawyer Referral Service



San Diego Superior Court
North County Division Welcomes You to
The 11th Annual

YOUTH IN COURT DAY

MARCH 16, 2012

**In conjunction with the Bar Association of Northern San Diego County
and the Lawyer Referral Service**

Check-In & light lunch: 12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. in Jury Lounge

Courtroom Sessions	Time	Location
DUI DISASTER Hear from a young woman who recently got out of juvenile detention for killing one woman and injuring another in a 2009 drunken driving accident. Hear not only from the offender who will tell you about her own life-threatening injuries, but from the decedent's daughter. The decedent's totaled SUV will be on display in the courthouse parking lot.	1:00–1:45 p.m.	Jury Lounge
WE REPRESENT ACCUSED MURDERERS, RAPISTS AND CHILD MOLESTERS AND WE'RE PROUD OF WHAT WE DO Criminal defense attorneys are responsible for representing people charged with crimes. We ensure that our client's statutory and constitutional rights are protected throughout the criminal proceedings, whether they are charged with murder, child molestation or drunk driving.	2:00-2:45 p.m.	Department 21 (3rd floor)
THE TRAGEDY OF FAMILY VIOLENCE See firsthand the unique problems lawyers face in domestic violence trials with witnesses who are forced to testify against their loved ones.	2:00–2:45 p.m.	Department 22 (3rd Floor)
STORIES FROM THE DRUG COURT Hear firsthand from drug addicts who have been through the criminal justice system on the long and tough road towards recovery.	2:00–2:45 p.m.	Department 23 (3rd Floor)
CSI - SAN DIEGO Learn about processing and analyzing trial evidence using forensic methods. Hear live testimony from a crime lab forensic specialist about the analysis of blood at a crime scene.	2:00-2:45 p.m.	Department 24 (3rd Floor)
GANGS ARE NOT A LIFE STYLE; THEY'RE A DEATH STYLE On a winter evening in 1995 while delivering a pizza, 20-year-old San Diego State student, Tariq Khamisa was shot and killed by a 14-year-old gang recruit, Tony Hicks. After the case was over, Tariq's father, Azim, and Tony's grandfather and guardian, Ples Felix, established a foundation to educate young people on the horrors of gang violence. Hear from Tony's grandfather and the judge who sentenced Tony to prison for 1st degree murder.	2:00-2:45 p.m.	Department 25 (3rd Floor)
SOCIAL NETWORK NIGHTMARE See a mock civil trial about a high school senior who is suing a university for revoking his early admission and scholarship to its school because of what he posted on his Facebook page about a fellow student's sexual orientation.	2:00-2:45 p.m.	Department 26 (4th Floor)
WHY CROOKS SHOULD HATE CELL PHONES Your cell phone is not only a communication tool; it is a crime-fighting tool. Hear what the experts say they can obtain from a crook's phone.	2:00–2:45 p.m.	Department 29 (4th Floor)